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POLITICAL PARTY ACTIVITY, TRIBAL DISPUTES IN SOMALIA

FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY IN MOGADISCIO -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 15 Nov 52

The Comitato per il Progresso Somalo (Committee for Somali Progress) was organized on 22 April 1949 among the Abgal tribes in Mogadiscio. Its purpose was to protect the political, social, and cultural interests of the Abgal tribes, both individually and collectively, and to promote peaceful relations among them and with other tribal units, in the interest of progress. The committee was highly successful in its undertakings.

On 10 November 1952, however, the committee decided to become a political party so as to keep pace with the changing political scene in Somalia. The party's program transcends the interests of the Abgal tribes alone, since anyone may join, provided he was born in Somalia, is a citizen, and has no criminal record.

UAS WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OPENS SECTION AT EL BUR -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 8 Nov 52

On 5 November 1952, the women's auxiliary of the UAS (Unione Africani della Somalia, Union of Africans in Somalia) opened a section at El Bur. Fatuma Hassan, secretary of the auxiliary, officiated.

UGB GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING IN MOGADISCIO -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 21 Oct 52

The UGB (Unione Giovani Benadir, Union of Benadir Youth) recently held a general meeting in Mogadiscio. Over 2,000 members attended, including many notables. Speeches were delivered in Arabic and Italian by the president, the vice-president, the deputy secretary of the UGB, and by Territorial Councilor Islaao Omar Ali, all reaffirming the party's desire to collaborate closely with the Italian Trusteeship Administration.

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HDM SECTION ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 11 Nov 52

On 20 October 1952, the HDM (Hizbia Dighil Mirifle) section in Haduman elected a new executive committee, composed of the following members: Ali Furus, secretary; Aden Abdi Nur, deputy secretary; Ibrahim Issak, treasurer; Awes Musae; Sheik Hagi Ali; Dureu Ibrahim; Osman Aden; Deio Alio; Abdurahman Abdi; Hagi Barcash; Alio Aden; Hussein Nabarucki; and Hagi Abdo.

UNAUTHORIZED LGS DEMONSTRATION AGAIN LEADS TO RIOT -- Asmara, Il Giornale dell'Eritrea, 22 Nov 52

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With the memory of the Chisimaio incident still fresh [redacted] the LGS (Lega Giovani Somali, Somali Youth League) held another unauthorized demonstration a few days ago, with serious consequences. This time, the incident occurred in the populous town of Genale.

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The demonstrators, some 600 in number, were inciting the townspeople against the jailing of two LGS members who had been found guilty of organizing unauthorized public demonstrations. The authorities might have permitted the new demonstration to pass quietly if it had not offended the sensitivity of other political parties. Thus, a local police inspector, anxious to avoid a conflict, telephoned the Resident to have the demonstrators dispersed.

The inspector later sent his men to dissuade the agitators from giving way to violence and to urge them to disperse. In reply, the agitators jeered, cursed, and threatened the police and even threw stones at them. The townspeople became alarmed. Thereupon, the inspector followed regulations and fired a machine gun into the air and then on the ground. The ricocheting bullets wounded seven demonstrators, three of whom had to be hospitalized.

Captain Zicardi, who took part in police action after the Chisimaio incident, was reported on the way to Genale to open an inquiry and arrest the instigators of the demonstration. Meanwhile, the persons already arrested will be tried.

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL INSTITUTE TO EXPAND LECTURE SERIES -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 8 Jan 53

The Istituto Culturale Sociale (Cultural and Social Institute) met on 4 December 1952. Dr Giovanni Repetto, a first lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps, gave a talk on tuberculosis, the first of a series of lectures on diseases affecting the community.

On 18 December, Luigi Bassi, a farm-land surveyor, spoke on diseases affecting local vegetation. Dr Oscar de Leone, regional commissioner and president of the institute, announced that the talks would be more numerous in 1953, particularly those on health problems.

UAS CHOOSES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1953 -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 8 Jan 53

On 4 January 1953, the UAS held a general meeting in Belet Uen to select a new executive committee. The following are the new committee members and their tribal origins: Islaq Abdi Ibrahim Abdi (of Gagala Ugaz), political secretary; Ahmed Guled Muradde (of Macanne), administrative secretary; Hagi Ali Versama Oul (of Averghedir Saad), treasurer; Dahir Mohamed (of Galgial

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Bese); Abdullah Mohamed Gelle (of Gegele Shalashamme); Ghedó Sugo (of Macanne); Mohamed Ali Duff (of Gheledi Omar Faghii); Yusuf Farah (of Gegele); Daud Maalim (of Macanne); Abdullahi Sheik Abukar (of Shekal); Barro Barraco (of Macanne); Roble Hiloole (of Rahantuun); and Allio Mohamed (of Rahantuun).

PAKISTANI ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 29 Dec 52

The Associazione Pakistana (Pakistani Association) recently chose its new executive committee for 1953, including the following members: Ahmed Fadel Hasham, chairman; Mohamedali M. Karimbhai, vice chairman; Abdurasul Gulamhussein, secretary; Ali Hagi Hussein Osman, vice secretary; Hussein Hagi Hassan Banjie, treasurer; and Mohamed Hagi Abdallab Hasham.

LNS CELEBRATES SECOND ANNIVERSARY -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 29 Dec 52

In Merca, the LNS (Lega Nazionale Somalia, National Somali League) celebrated its second anniversary on 20 December 1952. Present at the ceremony were Dr Ducati, Resident, and notables, as well as representatives of other political parties and of the Italian, Arab, and Pakistani communities.

The commemorative address was made by Ali Mohallim, president of the LNS. Sido Hagi Ibrahim, the vice-president, and Hassan Ali, the secretary general, also spoke.

END CENTURY-OLD STRIFE BETWEEN TRIBES -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 27 Oct 52.

On 23 October 1952, the Dabarre and Ghelidle tribes in the Dinsor region concluded a truce after two serious incidents had occurred within 3 months. Another major incident was avoided in June by the intervention of the Resident of Bardera. The feud over pasture lands and watering places had lasted for a century. Through the efforts of the Resident of Bardera and the Commissioner of Baidoa, both of whom had taken strong steps to avoid any new outbreaks, the leaders of the two tribes were prevailed on to swear by the Koran to maintain peace. This was done in the presence of the tribes, the Resident of Baidoa, and the local captain of the gendarmes. Messengers were then sent to proclaim the agreement in the bush country.

ADMINISTRATION QUELLS TRIBAL RAIDS WHICH CAUSED MANY DEATHS -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 27 Oct 52

Recently, an armed conflict ensued concerning pasture lands and watering places in the Adei Kiber area, about 30 kilometers east of Godinlave (Dusa Mareb area). Members of the Averghedir Saad tribe attacked members of the Averghedir Soleiman tribe, killing dozens of them and raiding their livestock. This action was immediately followed by a retaliatory raid in which the Soleimans killed several Saads and recovered much of their livestock.

The police intervened shortly afterward, recovered the rest of the raided animals, and arrested the instigators and participants. The courts ordered the sequestration of several thousand camels as security for the payment of damages and fines. The administration suspended four salaried tribal leaders temporarily and will probably impose more serious penalties later. It also called a meeting of the notables of both tribes to make sure that they were informed of what action the administration would take if legal means were not used to solve the problem.

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The administration has sought repeatedly to help the tribes reach a peaceful solution. The last attempt was made less than 3 months before the incident, but the stubbornness of several tribal leaders, as well as the parties concerned, prevented a settlement.

As a footnote to this report, Il Corriere della Somalia made the following editorial comments (summarized):

It should be clearly understood that the administration will use every means (and it has them) to put an end to these criminal acts, which are a return to ancient barbarism. Following the war, the tribes became lax in observing the laws and resorted to warfare when they saw fit. Now they will make their own peace or the administration will make it for them.

Every act of violence of the tribes is a blemish on the good name of the Somali people.

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ADMINISTRATION ARRANGES TRUCE BETWEEN RAIDING TRIBES -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 31 Oct 52

The administration recently placed Dr Benardelli, chief of the Office of Internal Affairs, in charge of arranging a truce between the Averghedir Saad and Averghedir Soleiman tribes. Accordingly, he informed their representatives (five leaders of the Saad and two leaders and several notables of the Soleiman tribe) of the measures already taken by the administration and the courts. These included the following: suspension of the salaried leaders who failed in their duty; establishment of a neutral zone between the tribes' customary grazing lands, a zone not to be crossed by members of either tribe; sequestration of camels from both tribes, in proportion to the damages inflicted and to the probable extent of the fines to be imposed; and holding of a trial as soon as possible by the regional court concerned.

The tribal leaders professed their willingness to conclude a truce. They swore on the Koran to assume responsibility for the truce until the final conciliation, with the understanding that any individual members of their tribes who violated the truce would be held personally responsible.

Talks were begun at once to effect a final conciliation, and messages were sent to inform the tribes of the truce.

TRIBAL LEADERS AGREE ON BOUNDARY -- Mogadiscio, Il Corriere della Somalia, 29 Dec 52

In the presence of the local authorities, a pact was signed in Itala on 2 December 1952 to establish peace between the Avernugale and Cavalle tribes, both of which are members of the Abgal tribal group. The strife between them is said to have arisen in 1935 over land in the Darheino area. At that time, six tribal members were killed and as many wounded. In 1943, Gomei Alasso, chief of the Cavalle tribe, was wounded in the leg and shoulder by the spears of three Avernugale men. He was saved only by the timely intervention of his own men.

Many unsuccessful attempts had been made before World War II and during the British occupation to settle the dispute. Now, thanks to the work of Resident Del Rio, the tribal chiefs (Gomei Alasso and Mohamed Gaal) have been able to solve their problem by establishing a demarcation line (about 30 kilometers long) from Don Adale to Garas Barga Addaue. The foregoing persons also agreed to entrust the exact definition of the boundary line to Sheik Mohamed Sheik Ali, cadi of Itala, assisted by two guides, Ilalc Hassan Maho (Cavalle) and Hussein Gaal (Avernugale). The survey began on 27 November and ended on 1 December. -- Mohamed Sheik Mahamud

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